

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim 1~~5~~, wherein, for the elastic deformability, slots or grooves are provided in the carrier plate.
4. (Previously Presented) The brake pad according to Claim 3, wherein each friction element rests in a ball socket of the carrier plate, and the slots are arranged in a radially extending manner in the ball socket.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~The brake pad according to Claim 1,~~ A brake pad for a disc brake of a vehicle, comprising:
 - a carrier plate;
 - several friction elements, which, when a brake is actuated, can be pressed onto the friction surface of a brake disc the friction elements being fastened to the carrier plate adjacent a front side of the carrier plate;
 - tension springs supported on a rear side of the carrier plate facing away from the friction elements; and
 - the carrier plate being partially form-elastically deformable in an overlapping area of the friction elements; and
 - wherein each friction element rests in a ball socket provided in the carrier plate, and the ball socket is constructed at least in areas as a cup spring.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~The brake pad according to Claim 3,~~ A brake pad for a disc brake of a vehicle, comprising:
 - a carrier plate;

several friction elements, which, when a brake is actuated, can be pressed onto the a friction surface of a brake disc the friction elements being fastened to the carrier plate adjacent a front side of the carrier plate;

tension springs supported on a rear side of the carrier plate facing away from the friction elements;

the carrier plate being partially form-elastically deformable in an overlapping area of the friction elements;

wherein, for the elastic deformability, slots or grooves are provided in the carrier plate; and

wherein ~~the~~ a thickness of ~~the~~ areas, which are bounded by two slots respectively and form webs, is one of constant over the radius and differs over the radius.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim ~~4~~5, wherein partial thickenings, on areas which the friction elements rest, are provided in the overlapping area of the friction elements.

9. (Previously Presented) The brake pad according to Claim 8, wherein the thickenings are constructed as knobs.

10. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim ~~4~~5, wherein the thickness of the carrier plate as a whole is one of identical and differs in a defined manner.

11. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim ~~4~~5, wherein, outside the overlapping area of the friction element, slots, which are arranged in a defined manner, are provided in the carrier plate.

12. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim ~~2~~14, wherein each spring element rests in a receiving device provided in the front side of the carrier plate.

13. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim 214, wherein the spring element is constructed as a cup spring.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The brake pad according to Claim 13,~~ A brake pad for a disc brake of a vehicle, comprising:

a carrier plate;

several friction elements, which, when a brake is actuated, can be pressed onto the a friction surface of a brake disc the friction elements being fastened to the carrier plate adjacent a front side of the carrier plate;

tension springs supported on a rear side of the carrier plate facing away from the friction elements;

a spring element for each friction element, which spring element is supported on one side on a back of the friction element and on another side on the front side of the carrier plate and forms a radial fixing of the friction element;

wherein the spring element is constructed as a cup spring; and

wherein the cup spring rests on the friction element by an edge bounding a center bore of the cup spring.

15. (Currently Amended): ~~The brake pad according to Claim 12,~~ A brake pad for a disc brake of a vehicle, comprising:

a carrier plate;

several friction elements, which, when a brake is actuated, can be pressed onto the a friction surface of a brake disc the friction elements being fastened to the carrier plate adjacent a front side of the carrier plate;

tension springs supported on a rear side of the carrier plate facing away from the friction elements;

a spring element for each friction element, which spring element is supported on one side on a back of the friction element and on another side on the front side of the carrier plate and forms a radial fixing of the friction element;

wherein each spring element rests in a receiving device provided in the front side of the carrier plate; and

wherein the depth of the receiving device is smaller than the height of the an unstressed spring element.

16. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim ~~13~~14, wherein the inside diameter of the cup spring corresponds approximately to the largest outside diameter of an attachment of the friction element, wherein the attachment is in the form of one of a spherical-segment-shaped area, a cylinder and a cone.

17. (Previously Presented) The brake pad according to Claim 12, wherein the outside diameter of the receiving device is smaller than the largest base plan dimension of the friction element.

18. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim ~~2~~14, wherein the spring element is constructed as a form spring in which the friction element rests radially fixed on the rear side.

19. (Previously Presented) The brake pad according to Claim 18, wherein the form spring has an indentation in which an attachment of the friction element rests.

20. (Previously Presented) The brake pad according to Claim 19, wherein the indentation has one of a spherical-cap-shaped and conical construction.

21. (Previously Presented) The brake pad according to Claim 19, wherein an edge area of the form spring bounding the indentation rests on the friction element.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The brake pad according to Claim 18,~~ A brake pad for a disc brake of a vehicle, comprising:

a carrier plate;

several friction elements, which, when a brake is actuated, can be pressed onto the a friction surface of a brake disc the friction elements being fastened to the carrier plate adjacent a front side of the carrier plate;

tension springs supported on a rear side of the carrier plate facing away from the friction elements;

a spring element for each friction element, which spring element is supported on one side on a back of the friction element and on another side on the front side of the carrier plate and forms a radial fixing of the friction element;

wherein the spring element is constructed as a form spring in which the friction element rests radially fixed on the rear side; and

wherein the form spring has an axially extending, circumferential collar which projects slightly beyond the carrier plate on the front side of the carrier plate facing the friction element.

23. (Previously Presented) The brake pad according to Claim 22, wherein, relative to the base of the receiving device, the edge area bounding the indentation is higher than the collar.

24. (Currently Amended): ~~The brake pad according to Claim 18,~~ A brake pad for a disc brake of a vehicle, comprising:

a carrier plate;

several friction elements, which, when a brake is actuated, can be pressed onto the a friction surface of a brake disc the friction elements being fastened to the carrier plate adjacent a front side of the carrier plate;

tension springs supported on a rear side of the carrier plate facing away from the friction elements;

a spring element for each friction element, which spring element is supported on one side on a back of the friction element and on another side on the front side of the carrier plate and forms a radial fixing of the friction element;

wherein the spring element is constructed as a form spring in which the friction element rests radially fixed on the rear side; and

wherein the diameter of the a receiving device provided in the front side of the carrier plate corresponds to the outside diameter of the form spring.

25. (Previously Presented) The brake pad according to Claim 24, wherein the outer base plan dimension of the form spring is smaller than the largest base plan dimension of the friction element.

26. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim 214, wherein the spring elements consist of spring steel sheet.

27. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim 15, wherein the carrier plate consists of a casting material selected from one of a cast steel and cast aluminum.

28. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim 15, wherein the carrier plate consists of steel sheet.

29. (Currently Amended) The brake pad according to Claim 15, wherein the carrier plate is constructed as a deep-drawn steel sheet part.

30. (Previously Presented) The brake pad according to Claim 21, wherein, relative to the base of the receiving device, the edge area bounding the indentation is higher than the collar.